

Village of Wilson Department of Public Works

The Village DPW Garage, buildings, baseball diamonds and park area was purchased some time ago for the purpose of providing the Village of Wilson with a water system. The pier at the end of Lake Street was built by the Fredonia Preserving Co. around 1910. On the bluff near this pier stood a small building that housed a pump which pumped water to their plant south of the Wilson Depot. This water line ran up Lake Street with branch Lines running west on Wood Street and Young Street. Water towers were erected at the plant. Sometime in the mid 1920's the village built its own water system and on this site there was a pump house and filtration system. The village had a water tower on the north side of High Street to create pressure for this system. When this system was complete all the homes in the village had access to water. Prior to this the residents had to rely on wells and cisterns for their water. The Town of Wilson at this time consisted of mostly farms that also relied on wells and cisterns. During the summer water trucks would go to the village pump house and fill their tanks to haul out to the farms. In the 1950's the village charged one dollar per truck for water (about 1000 Gallons) and the farmer paid five dollars to the trucker. This changed in the mid 1960's when the Town of Wilson started to build it own water system. The village system continued on its own for several years before hooking into the town system. The village pump house, filtration system and water tower were removed in time. The first use of this land as a park came about in the late 1950's when the Village Board was approached by The Wilson Lions Club, who wanted to build a Baseball Diamond for Little League Games. Afterwards more diamonds, pavilions and a refreshment stand with restrooms came to be. In the 1970's Edward Krueger donated two lots on the southeast part of the existing village property. On the entrance to these lots an overhead sign said "Krueger Grove" and later the entire property was named "Krueger Park". When Jerry Dean was Mayor a group of local citizens formed "Watch Wilson Grow" which through their efforts of fund raising has added many improvements to our village. One of these is the Information Center that sits on the site of the old Wilson Water Works.



Village of Wilson's Water Tower Circa. 1950